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*pegen*, G. Degen; *trag* (read *trág*), G. träge; *lið*, G. G-lid—(the definition 'limb, limbs' is misleading: the pl. is not *lið*, but *liðu leoðu*); *sammian*, G. *samm-el*n; *dwol* and *dol* should be connected; *wunian*, Mod. wont; *hrif*, Mod. mid-riff; *heregeatu*, Mod. heriot: *gēsne*, Mod. (obs.) geason, etc.

Although the editors have clearly had nothing above the most elementary needs in view in working out these etymological phases, it is difficult to see why more attention was not paid to secondary derivation. No intimation, for example, of the corresponding verbal forms *sēon*, 'to see,' and *sēon*, 'to filter,' accompanies *onsyn* 'appearance,' and *onsyn*, 'deficiency'; *bēot* is not referred to *behātan*; *gafol* to *giefan*; *onsēge* to *sigan*; *hīrēd* (read *hīred*) to its elements. The interesting compounds *lāttēow* and *lārēow* are passed by, nor is the student made aware of the relation between *getawe* (read *getāwe*) and *geatwe*; (*unforcað* and *fracod* (*fracod*)).

In the case of *hapax legomena* the references are too often omitted. Wherever it is possible, such words should be explained. There is usually something special about them; they may be dialectal, as *searo-fearo* (<*faru*); or possible scribal errors, as *swēg-leðer*; or due to a blunder on the part of scholars, as *færbu*. The last word has now for some time been rightly understood. To Cosijn belongs the credit of having first noticed (Beitr. VII. 456) that a separation into two words is to be made: *fær* (n.) 'color,' and the numeral *bū*. The further derivation of *fær* gives the scheme: I. E. *\*paro-*: *\*parwō-* (Lit. *parwas*)=*fær*: O. H. G. *far(a)wa*.

An unwelcome illustration of the persistent transmission of old errors is furnished in the fictitious infinitives *lihan*, *sihan*, *tihan*, *wrihan*, *feohan*, *seohon* (sic); *scānan* is still a reduplicating verb, and *felgan* usurps the place of *feolan*. Although *tēon*, 'to draw,' and *tēon*, 'to censure,' are distinguished, to *of-tēon* is ascribed the peculiar property of combining the two. How much longer are we to wait for editors of the *Béowulf* to comprehend the construction of the opening lines of this poem? So, too, in keeping with this kind of conservatism, to venture a denomination, we are not yet to be released from the themes: *ealdor-lagu*, *feorh-lagu*, *ealdor-naru*, *feorh-naru*.

False quantities are not wanting; a few examples taken at random may illustrate: *dru-gian*, *drygian*, *dryge*, *crist*, *cristen*, *cristnian*, *cyle*, *fnæst*, *hruse*, *hrest* (Metr. 11, 58 < *hrēosan*, therefore 'falls' not 'withers'), *Orgete*—there is also considerable confusion in the treatment of the prefix *or-*, *sið* < *sēon*, *tucian*, *pryð iu-man* (but *gēo-man*), *wag*, 'wall', *wædl*. Misprints like the following will be easily corrected: *her-lic* (but *hēr*); *læs* (but *læssa*); *læt-hydig*, *læt-lice* (but *lēt*); and *huru* (but *hūru*); *lāreow* (but *lārīow*); *wol-dæg*, *ēogoð*, *gēoguð* (p. 60; an error borrowed from the German ed.), etc.

Until a common system of vowel accentuation may be agreed upon, consistency in each particular method is all that can be required. The present editors have not, in this matter, been sufficiently guarded at all points: *geār*, *geādsne*, (but *gēomor*), and the preterits *scōp*, (*ēo*) *scān* (*ēa*), *scōc* (*ēo*), *gēafon*.

In closing this notice, gratitude must not be withheld for the service of the editors to the study of Anglo-Saxon poetry. Uniform definitions in English for the entire body of the poetic vocabulary will give heart to many to whom foreign languages are less familiar, to attempt to learn something of our ancient songs. Perhaps the way has now been paved to a poetic lexicon in which the peculiar phraseology and figuration of this poetry may receive systematic treatment. The need of a handy etymological dictionary of the Anglo-Saxon language, based upon exact philological principles, has certainly been made clear. May the want be speedily supplied!

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*Grammaire Élémentaire de la Vieille Langue Française*, par L. CLÉDAT. Paris, Garnier Frères. 8vo, 3fr. 50.

All French scholars and, indeed, all persons that take an interest in Romance philology, will hail with delight the publication of a book which explains so clearly the history of Old French. The purely modern grammars, which treat merely of the present language and, like autocrats, give rules without deigning to explain them, are now, like the five ladies of Vil-lon, with "les neiges d'antan." Lhomond, Noël et Chapsal, Poitevin are things of the past,

and even in classes in which the students not having studied Latin, do not wish to learn the science of language, we see replacing the older grammars, those of Larive et Fleury, of Brachet et Dussonchet, of Chassang, because they give an idea of the history of the language. Let us try to teach our pupils how to think, how to reason, how to trace the different forms of a word; of a letter, through the ages, and then we shall be sure that the knowledge gained will remain, for we shall have built on a solid foundation.

The Germans have always stood very high in French philology and Diez's Grammar of the Romance languages is a wonderful monument of labor and science, but it must not be forgotten that it was Raynouard, a Frenchman, who discovered the famous rule of the *s*. Ampère's work on the formation of the French language is still a good book in many respects and, as to Brachet's grammars, they are well-known to all linguists. Mr. Brachet has rendered an immense service to French scholars, but Mr. Clédât has gone more deeply into the subject. I shall try to review very briefly the characteristics of his work.

In his Introduction he neglects the political history of the language, which is very fully given in Brachet, and explains the prefixes and suffixes and the orthography of old French, thus affording material help in the reading of the old monuments. He gives only the general laws of phonetics and keeps very wisely for the end of the book the scientific discussion of phonology, a subject which he treats very ably and clearly. In the Introduction, however, I should have wished to see the attention of the student called, as forcibly as in Brachet and in Littré (*Histoire de la Langue Française*) to the three fundamental rules: the persistency of the Latin accent, the suppression of the short vowel, and the fall of the middle consonant.

The chapters on the Noun and the Adjective are very well explained, but I have noticed especially his remarks about the origin and declension of the article. It is very interesting to understand how *le* came from the proclitic *ille*: *ille murus* being pronounced *illemûrus* with the accent on the third syllable, and *ille* itself having no tonic accent but a secondary one falling on the second syllable, *il* disappeared and *le* remained, just as in *c'te femme*, the

first syllable is hardly sounded. *Ille*, pronoun, not proclitic, gave *il*, and proclitic, the other forms, while *ils* has merely an analogous *s*, the popular form still being *il ont*.

Mr. Clédât has in his chapter on the Verb some highly important pages on the variations caused by the presence of the "*e* or *i* consonnifiable," which in verbs whose radical ends in a single consonant generally transforms the vowel of that radical into a diphthong, as *j'oïs* from *audire* for the first person, while we have *tu os*, *il ot*, *nons oons*, *vous oez*.

The difference between the present participle and the gerundive not having been well established heretofore, Mr. Clédât gives a very good explanation of it. He quotes a curious passage from Joinville: "*En ces choses arêrer mist-il jusques à midi*" to show that in Old French the infinitive was sometimes used after *en*.

It is by these quotations from the old authors given as proofs of the rules that the new grammar far surpasses its predecessors. It follows in that way the admirable example given by Littré in his dictionary, and the syntax of Mr. Clédât's book may serve as a history of the literature of the Middle Ages as well as of the language itself. The syntax of the Preposition is complete, and the remark about *entre* used in the sense of 'together' (*ensemble*) is quite interesting.

The third part of the syntax is devoted to gallicisms, those idiomatic expressions which are so troublesome to foreigners. Numerous examples are given from the old authors.

At the end of the book are the chapter on phonetics, already mentioned, and a short treatise on the versification of the Middle Ages.

Mr. Clédât modestly calls his work an elementary grammar, but, in my opinion, it is so complete that I do not think it should be given to a student before he has studied Brachet's "*Nouvelle Grammaire*" or even his larger "*Grammaire Historique*." All teachers of French are grateful to Mr. Clédât for the work already accomplished so well, and are anxious to have as soon as possible the more scientific grammar which he has announced.

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